

p.209 *C. deviella* Zell. — The specimen from Southsea is not of this species but *C. asteris* Mühlig — JRL, *Ent. Gaz.* 37: 116

p. 14 *Ancylosis oblitella* (Zell.) — Wytham Woods (23) should read Wytham Wood (22)

Notes and Observations

SOME COMMENTS ON THE RUBY TIGER MOTH (PHRAGMATOBIA FULIGINOSA L.) — Further to the paper by B. K. West on this moth (*Ent. Rec.* 98: 129-134), I recorded in this journal many years ago (*Ent. Rec.* 65: 129) some experiences with a moth of Cornish origin. I obtained some eggs from a wild caught female during a brief home leave, and took the resultant larvae back to Kampala. There I reared four successive generations until the strain died out, probably due to excessive inbreeding. Each generation segregated into a larger portion which continued its development without delay, and a smaller one that went into diapause. This latter group failed to survive, despite attempts to breed them on. Everything pointed to this species being continuously brooded under suitable conditions. D. G. SEVASTOPULO PO Box 95617, Mombasa, Kenya.

FURTHER CAMBRIDGESHIRE RECORDS OF HECATERA DYSO-DEA D. & S. — Further to a recent paper on the subject of the extinction of *Hecatera dysodea* D. & S., the small ranunculus moth (*Ent. Rec.*, 1986: 98: 70-78, 114-118, 154-158), a little more information has come to notice. Mr. S. W. Pooles kindly contacted me on the subject and was able to confirm that the late John Peed of Whittlesea in Cambridgeshire assured in the late 1920's that he was still recording the species larval stage annually in his garden, on Cos lettuce. Mr. Peed's collection, now in the Peterborough Museum, contains 18 specimens dated 1896.

In the E. Craske collection within the same museum are another eight specimens taken in July 1920 from Cambridge. These records demonstrate the insects continued establishment in Cambridgeshire in more than one locality after the First World War and nationally are the only known sightings during the 1920's.

I am most grateful to Mr. Pooles for his information and to Mark Parsons for researching the specimens housed at Peterborough Museum. COLIN PRATT, 5 - View Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex.

ATOLMIS RUBRICOLLIS L. (LEP.: ARCTIIDAE) IN ARGYLLSHIRE — whilst collecting with R. McCormick on the private estate of Druimnell House, Port Appin, we recorded *rubricollis* on the nights of 22 and 24.vi.1986. Skinner, in *Moths of the British Isles*, does not

include Scotland in the known range of this moth. Although there is a possibility that these captures were of immigrants, P. Wormall (*in litt*) noted a specimen in the Oban area on 30.v.1971, and the Scottish Insect Record Index (see *Ent. Rec.* 99:37) gives a further 12 recorded localities. C. C. PENNY, 109 Waveney Drive, Chelmsford, Essex.

PTEROPHORUS GALACTODACTYLA D. & S. (LEP.: PTEROPHORIDAE) IN LINCOLNSHIRE — during June 1986, whilst collecting at Saltfeelby, Lincolnshire, in the company of C. Hart and R. McCormick, a number of larvae of *galactodactyla* were found feeding on burdock (*Arctium lappa*). Beirne, in *British Pyralid and Plume Moths* states “. . . . confined to England and Wales from Norfolk, Hertfordshire and Glamorgan southwards.” This appears to be a new County record, and represents a northerly extension of the known range of this insect. C. C. PENNEY, 109 Waveney Drive, Chelmsford, Essex.

A NOTE ON REARING MYTHIMNA ALBIPUNCTA D. & S. (LEP.: NOCTUIDAE), THE WHITE POINT) — On the fourth of October 1986 I visited the tallows area of Dungeness as the weather conditions seemed favourable for migrants. I found myself in good company as Bernard Skinner, Michael Chalmers-Hunt and David Wilson were already in residence.

Migrants were scarce, however, in 42 species recorded only *Agrotis ipsilon* and *albipuncta* were thought likely to be migrants and, remarkably, *gamma* did not appear. David ended up with the *albipuncta* and as it was a female he promised to try and obtain some eggs and pass a few on to me.

As in all the best stories I had to wait, but three or four weeks later, on the day of the BENHS exhibition, David kindly passed on to me five young larvae.

One died two days later but the others thrived, feeding well on cocksfoot grass (*Dactylis glomerata*). The larvae were of different ages but by keeping the larger ones cool I managed to get all four to emerge as moths within two days of each other in early December. The larvae were reared in plastic boxes in a home made incubator held at 20-22°C. The larvae pupate readily in leaf mould, lying just under the surface. They turn from full-grown larvae to the prepupal shrunken condition in a very short time, sometimes only twelve hours, but when transferred to the pupating box they all managed to bury themselves and form a pupal chamber without problems. The larva stays like this for about four days, a relatively long time I think for such a moth.

The pupa has two distinguishing features, there is a single anal spike which is very like a short bristle about 1mm long. The pupa also has a hardened and darkened ‘nose’ area with a small raised keel. The pupa stage lasted for about three weeks.